

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2005**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chris Kozaites, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Community Center, in the Senior Center Library. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Chris Kozaites, President
Harry Saltzgaver, Vice President
Bea Antenore
Raymond Chavarria
Simon George
William Marmion
Drew Satariano

Absent: none

Staff: Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau
Janet Day-Anselmo, Manager, Business Operations Bureau
Gwendolyn Parker, Superintendent of Contracts and Revenue Development
Diane Lewis, Manager, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau
Chrissy Marshall, Manager, Community Recreation Programs
Steven Neal, Chief Ranger
Geoff Hall, Special Projects Officer
Robin Black, Executive Secretary to the Director

Guests: Frances Keys
Nallely Vallejo, Cinco de Mayo/Homeland
Curtis Borow
Veronica Servin, 8th Council District Representative
Diane Havron, Resident
Jennifer Hastings, Resident and Supporter of Shane's Inspiration
Derek Barraza, California Sun & Surf
Jorge Polanco, Director of Coaching, CCFC Soccer Club
Trey Sharlin, President, Beach Soccer Club
Robert Lamond, Partners of Parks

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 17, 2005

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to approve the March 17, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SAMMY AWARD PRESENTATION – CHRISSY MARSHALL

Chrissy Marshall requested that the Sammy Award presentation be postponed to the May 19 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

IV. EMPLOYEE-OF-THE-MONTH PRESENTATION FOR APRIL

President Kozaites stated that Vice President Saltzgaver would announce the Employee of the Month.

Vice President Saltzgaver announced Maria Trembley as the April Administrative Employee of the Month, from the Business Operations Bureau. Ms. Gwendolyn Parker stated that Ms. Trembley worked for a time at the Police Department as a 911 operator and came to the Department in April of 2001, as a Clerk Typist in the Reservation/Registration Office. She said that Ms. Trembley is also a certified bilingual employee, which is a tremendous help to the public. Ms. Parker said that this office handles about 200 calls a day and Ms. Trembley's great attitude is an asset to the office.

V. RECOGNITION OF DIXIE SWIFT

Mr. Hester stated that unfortunately Dixie will be retiring in the near future and the Department thought it appropriate for her to be recognized before the Parks and Recreation Commission for her many years of service.

Commissioner Chavarria stated that he met Dixie 20 years ago when he volunteered at Homeland. He and Ms. Nallely Vallejo presented Dixie with a framed photo of herself.

President Kozaites presented Ms. Swift with a framed rendering of the proposed Homeland facility.

Ms. Swift thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission and Partners of Parks for standing behind Homeland's vision for the community. She said that the community uses Homeland and MacArthur Park as a neutral safe space for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Marmion stated that he knew Dixie Stallings, way back when, in school. He said that we all have certain people that we look up to and admire and he thinks of Dixie as a treasure of Long Beach.

VI. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#05-0401

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

It was moved by Vice President Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to authorize the Community Recreation Programs Bureau manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0402

MEMORIAL BENCH FOR WILLIAM CLEVELAND

Mr. Shippey stated that the letter identifies Mr. Cleveland and the reason for the memorial bench. He said that this is replacing an existing bench, which is beneficial to the Department.

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Chavarria to approve the placement and installation of the memorial bench for Mr. William Cleveland. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0403

REQUEST BY THE CALIFORNIA SUN & SURF INTERNATIONAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT FOR WAIVER OF CONCESSION AND FIELD PERMIT FEES

Mr. Hester stated that Derek Barraza called him a few minutes ago and will try to attend the Commission meeting. He said that this is a tournament that has been in existence for a number of years. He said that the Parks and Recreation Commission historically waives the fees and the organization will, in turn, works with Maintenance Operations to provide funding for the maintenance of soccer fields.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that his only concern is about the organization waiting to pay the bill a year after the event. He said he would like to see that resolved in the future.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Marmion to approve the request by the California Sun & Surf International Soccer Tournament for the waiver of concession and field permit fees with the aforementioned "Conditions of Use." The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0404

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004

Mr. Hester stated that even though the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission is not under the purview of the Parks and Recreation Commission, he thought it would be appropriate for the Commission to see their annual report.

Commissioner Chavarria stated that he really liked the community outreach by the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Vice President Saltzgaver to receive and file the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission Annual Report for 2004. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Kozaites, Chair

President Kozaites stated that the Committee met last week and they discussed the FY 2006 budget, and he thanked Mr. Hester for including them in the process. He said that last year they voted to keep this issue in the Executive Committee, and as issues develop, they will move them over to the Finance and Appeals Committee.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the City has announced their budget schedule and there would be a budget workshop on May 3, and then a Neighborhood Resources Center meeting on May 16.

Mr. Hester stated that there is also going to be a budget summit scheduled on a Saturday. He said that he would send a copy of that schedule and mark those meetings that might be of interest to the Commission.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano stated that the report is included in the packet and the Department is 50 percent through the fiscal year.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner Marmion, Chair

Commissioner Marmion stated that the Committee met on Monday and information is included in the packet. They discussed episodes at the skate parks and would like to make it an agenda item for a future meeting, such as in May or June.

Commissioner Marmion said that there is a park ranger who just returned from service with the National Guard in Iraq and they would like to honor him for that service at a future meeting.

Commissioner Antenore bought up the graffiti at Houghton Skate Park that was supposedly put there as a memorial to a youth that was killed. She said that if this is allowed to remain, it sets a precedent for other memorials in the city because of some gang killing, and she is concerned about how this will be handled.

Mr. Hester stated that this was the same time that the youth was killed at Cabrillo High School, and it was thought that the individual's friends put the graffiti at Houghton Skate Park. He said that this is a very sensitive issue and we cannot remove memorials. He stated that Alvin Bernstein became personally involved to intervene. He stated that the Department is planning to hold another meeting with the youth, and if the Commission is planning to do anything related to the skate parks, the original youths who were involved in planning the skate parks should be notified. Mr. Hester stated that Department staff from Homeland are working on a project to put a mural in the Houghton Skate Park bowl, which hopefully will eliminate graffiti there.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION
COMMITTEE
Commissioner Chavarria, Chair

Commissioner Chavarria stated that there was no meeting this month, the Committee would meet next month.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE
Vice President Saltzgaver, Chair

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee held a joint meeting last month with the Citizens Advisory Commission on Disabilities and have come up with a recommendation. He said that they would like to start out with El Dorado Park's playground by the band shell, and they would need to prioritize the others. He said that they are also recommending that any future playground upgrades or new parks be considered for universally accessible playground designs. There are seven separate recommendations they would like to forward to the City Council. He said that the biggest issue is how to get the money and the priorities, after the El Dorado site.

Mr. Geoff Hall stated that the issue of the first park was one that could be thought of as a regional draw. He said that El Dorado Park could be the first site for a fund raising effort and that seed money is needed for design and some sort of staff support for fundraising.

Ms. Diane Havron stated that she is trying to work with Shane's Inspiration Company and the Department and has offered her fund raising services by going to the community, schools, churches, and other organizations to notify them of the benefits. She said that it is a great idea and it has to start somewhere.

Commissioner Satariano asked the amount of seed money needed. Mr. Hall responded that it depends on the infrastructure needed for a particular site. He said that Shane's Inspiration Company has stated that the amount is about 20 percent of the project cost, which could be \$200,000 for the first site.

It was moved by Vice President Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to adopt the joint recommendations of the CIP Committee and the CACOD Youth Committee, and request staff to communicate these recommendations to the City Council and that we maintain vigilance over this process. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Marmion stated that he just attended a meeting with Long Beach City College Foundation at the Pacific Coast Campus this morning. He suggested that staff contact Farley Herzik at that campus, because they dispose of scrap from their aviation program and they may have some stuff that goes to scrap that staff could use in a park.

President Kozaites thanked the Commissioners, the public, and staff who worked on this project.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE
Commissioner Antenore, Chair

1. "WILD ABOUT NATURE" SUMMER PROGRAM PRESENTATION –
JODI METZ

Commissioner Antenore stated that the meeting this afternoon was cancelled and Jodi Metz had to postpone and be added to the May Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION

A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 2005

Commissioner Chavarria congratulated Maintenance Operations, who continue to do a lot of work.

Commissioner Satariano commented that the amount of debris removed from the beach is huge.

Commissioner George stated that on page 6, under Tennis, he would like to congratulate staff on the refurbished courts at the Billie Jean King Tennis Center.

Commissioner Marmion stated that he attended the Chavez Day on May 1, with Commissioner Antenore, and the rededication of Rancho Los Alamitos on May 3.

Commissioner Antenore stated that she was intrigued by the money management class for children ages 5-12.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that despite the fact that staff pulled 400 tons of debris off the beach, there is a letter in the paper saying that the peninsula residents had their trash picked up first off the beach.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the lake on the 14th hole at El Dorado Golf Course is almost completely covered with scum and the Colorado Lagoon is about half covered. He said that staff should watch the water areas for stagnant water. Mr. Hester stated that the Colorado Lagoon is another issue, but he would check into the El Dorado Golf Course lake issue.

Commissioner Marmion stated that it might be a good idea for the City to put up a sign for renovations to tell people how projects are being funded, particularly the renovation of the parking lot and curbs on Eliot. He said that citizens wonder why this is being worked on when there are streets that need to be repaired. Commissioner Marmion stated that this is an ADA project and is not being funded by the City. He said that there needs to be some kind of public information at a work site that says what it is, why, and who is funding it. Mr. Hester stated that he could talk to Public Works about this issue.

Commissioner Chavarria stated that Mr. Barraza has arrived.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that it is important to check the many water areas for standing water. Mr. Hester agreed that it is important to check the lakes.

President Kozaites stated that a few weeks ago he attended the opening of the first new dock at the Shoreline Marina and it is beautiful.

Commissioner Chavarria stated that the yacht club is also very nice.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

A. THANK YOU LETTERS FROM TUCKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

President Kozaites stated that he went to the class and their entire classroom wall was covered in park issues and the class was trying to determine what was

the best park and why, by doing an analysis. He said they were very enthusiastic and it was a lot of fun.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Kozaites stated that there was no unfinished business.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. RIVERLINK STUDY – LONG BEACH RIVERLINK PLAN

Mr. Eschen stated that this is the same study that has been brought to the Parks and Recreation Commission previously; it is just a reprint after editing.

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to adopt the RiverLink Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

XII. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

Ms. Vallejo stated that this is the first time she has been to a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and it is really good; she had no idea of all the decisions that went on behind the scene. She said that she has been working with Commissioner Chavarria on the Cinco de Mayo celebration and hopes to see everyone there.

Mr. Barraza thanked the Commission for their support and introduced Trey Sharlin and Jorge Polanco. He said that he is going to serve in more of an advisory role, due to his demanding job.

Mr. Hester stated that Mr. Barraza and his organization have really helped provide resources to redo some of the soccer fields.

B. STAFF

Mr. Hall stated that there was an article in Sunset magazine about five great dog parks, featuring the Dog Zone with a picture.

Mr. Hester stated that Daryle Black Park would be open to the public on Saturday, but the official opening would be held in a few months after the statue is installed. He stated that on May 7, Burton W. Chace Park would be dedicated. He said that a ceremony for Rotary Park would possibly be held in June.

C. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Chavarria stated that the MacArthur Park break-dancers went to Japan and won first place and \$10,000 in a competition. He also stated that the Cambodian Parade would be held on Sunday, April 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Hall of Fame committee met last week and were discussing a June 18 date for the next induction ceremony in conjunction with an Armada game.

Commissioner Marmion stated that on Wednesday he presented a \$5,000 check to the Commission on Youth and Children from the Miller Foundation for the projects that the students are competing for.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the comment period is now over for the Sports Park EIR and they are responding. He believes that they will move through the permitting processing in early summer.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2005, at Cesar E. Chavez Park, in the community center, 401 Golden Avenue, Long Beach.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

President Kozaites adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black
Executive Secretary
to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine